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# STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES

(Commission decision F (45))

Report by the Executive Secretary

1. Since the forty-fifth session of the Commission, the Conference of European Statisticians, its Bureau and the Statistical Division of the ECE secretariat have taken follow-up action in order to implement decision F (45), as set out below.

2. At its session in June 1990 the Conference revised its work programme in accordance with the principles laid down in the above-mentioned decision. The programme adopted fully corresponds to the requests of the Commission, i.e. emphasizing, in particular, activities designed to assist countries in transition, their integration into the global economy and development projects (Report ECE/CES/36).

3. Requirements for data as well as for related statistical assistance from emerging new sub-regional forms of international co-operation have been taken into account by the Conference to the extent possible. In addition, it should be mentioned that important activities in this field were also carried out by EFTA, Eurostat and the OECD. In order to improve the level of co-operation and co-ordination, an informal consultation was held between members of the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians and the secretariats of ECE, Eurostat and OECD in January 1991.

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4. Measures were taken in the field of energy statistics to encourage a co-ordinated methodological approach and to facilitate the exchange of data between international organizations in the ECE region. Similar activities are carried out in the field of environment statistics, statistics of services and transport statistics.

5. In response to operative paragraph 4 of decision F (45) the submission of data has been considerably improved in terms of both quality and quantity. Furthermore a number of countries have increased their contributions to the implementation of the work programme. Lastly, meeting activities have found a greater response, particularly in priority areas.

6. The methodological assistance requested in operative paragraph 5 of the decision has so far focused on statistical offices in transition.

7. Revision or reaffirmation of priorities and streamlining of the Conference's programme of work started with the adoption of the new work programme at the 1990 plenary session. The work will be continued at a Seminar in March 1991 for heads of statistical offices and will come to a tentative conclusion in June 1991.

8. The joint meeting of the Committee on the Development of Trade and the Conference of European Statisticians on foreign trade disparities took place from 12 to 13 November 1990. (For the report see CES/AC.45/8 : TRADE/AC.25/2).

9. The Executive Secretary reported to the thirty-eighth plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians on resources, as requested by decision F (45).

10. In accordance with the provisions of decision O (45), he has undertaken a reallocation of secretariat resources to strengthen the Commission's work on statistics.